

**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BROMLEY.**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH

OF THE

BROMLEY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1915.

BY

JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.

BROMLEY, KENT :

BROMLEY & WEST KENT NEWSPAPER CO., LTD., SHERMAN ROAD.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30256781>

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

AREA OF POPULATION.

The following Tables give the area, population of the District, and other figures as shown by the census of 1911, and previous census years.

No. of Registration District	Area in Statute acres		Inhabited Houses				Population			
	Land and Inland Water	Inland Water only	1881	1891	1901	1911	1881	1891	1901	1911
42	28839	40	2770	3237	3655	4777	14303	16818	18808	21958

Civil Parishes	Area in Statute acres (Land and Inland Water)	Families or Separate occupiers		Population				Institutions, Large Establishments, Vessels, etc., 1911 (included in Cols. 4 & 6)	
		1901	1911	1901	1911			No.	Pop.
				Pers's	Pers's	Males	F'mas		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chelsfield ...	3,378	341	428	1,522	1,790	885	905	4	37
Cudham ...	5,925	234	389	1,111	1,604	832	772	5	21
Downe ...	1,652	145	164	610	649	285	364	2	40
Farnborough...	1,429	284	508	2,262	3 210	1,708	1,502	5	1,096
Hayes ...	1,282	195	214	838	925	369	556	—	—
Keston ...	1,487	179	235	832	986	440	546	2	33
Knockholt ...	1,701	223	244	952	943	472	471	1	1
Mottingham ...	642	256	316	1,332	1,534	727	807	2	100
North Cray ...	1,484	147	140	661	655	303	352	1	19
Orpington ...	3,517	864	1,130	4,259	5,036	2,351	2,685	14	148
St. Mary Cray	2,028	439	457	1,894	1,857	872	985	—	—
St. Paul's Cray	1,654	256	301	1,207	1,467	676	791	5	71
W'st Wickham	2,660	264	294	1,328	1,302	610	692	2	32
Totals ...	28,839	3,827	4,820	18,808	21,958	10,530	11,428	43	1,598

In dealing with the returns for 1915 it has been necessary to base the vital statistics on two estimates of population. For the birth-rate the population at the middle of 1914 has been used and for the death-rate an estimated civil population has been adopted and all military deaths have been excluded from the returns. The reason for this arrangement has been the difficulty of transferring to the original place of residence military deaths occurring in this country, and also the impossibility of arriving at a reliable estimate of the population by the method hitherto in use, owing to the movements caused by the war and so far as the death returns were concerned the only approximately reliable method to adopt seemed to be to exclude military deaths from the returns and to

base the death rate on an estimate of the civil population, the information being supplied by the Local Government Board, and according to their estimate, it would appear that after a year of war it is only 38 less than the gross population at the middle of 1914. Considering the large number of men who are away on military service there must have been a very big influx into the district of persons engaged on war work to bring the population so near to that of normal times.

In estimating the birth-rate it was necessary to remember that many of the births registered would be the children of residents away on military duty, and that most of the births relating to children of temporary residents in the district would be transferred away to the original place of residence of the parents. It was therefore decided to base the birth-rate on the population at the middle of 1914, before the outbreak of war disturbed the character of the population of the locality.

Births and the Birth-rate.—There were 434 births registered in the district, nine were children of non-residents and were transferred away; three births occurring outside the district were transferred to it, making the **net births 428** (220 males and 202 females) and the **net birth-rate 18·5** which is a very low rate for the district and compares unfavourably with the corresponding rate of 20·7 for Rural England and Wales. Twenty-two illegitimate births were registered in the district and nine of them were transferred away: the total number of these births belonging to the district was 15 compared with 16 in 1914.

Deaths and the Death-rate.—Three hundred and seventy-five deaths were registered in the district, giving a crude death-rate of 16·2. One hundred and thirteen deaths of non-residents were transferred away from the district, and 26 deaths of residents were transferred to it, making the **net deaths 288** and the **net death-rate 12·5**, which is a substantial increase on 1914, but is almost identical with the rate for 1913, and the number of deaths under one year and over 65 are exactly the same as in those groups in 1913. Had the death-rate been estimated on a normal population it would have been 12·2.

The death-rate for Rural England and Wales for 1915 was 14.8.

There has been a decrease in the total number of deaths from the following epidemic diseases, and I give the rate per 1,000 of the population for this district, and also for Rural England and Wales.

							Rate per 1,000 living.	
							Bromley Rural	England & Wales
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	3	0'13	0'14
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...		0'32
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	4	0'17	0'19
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...		0'04
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...		0'05
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...		0'00
						—	—	
						7	0'30	

Infant Mortality.—There were 38 infant deaths belonging to the district, giving an infant mortality of 88, compared with 25 deaths and a rate of 54 in 1914. One death was due to scarlet fever, three to tuberculosis, both nil in 1914; 10 deaths were due to pneumonia and bronchitis compared with six in 1914, and 15 deaths were due to premature births, congenital malformations, etc., compared with 10 in 1914. Diarrhoea and enteritis, which last year claimed seven deaths under one year, were nil in 1915. There were three illegitimate deaths.

Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915.—As with the other districts forming the West Kent Combined District, the Notification of Births Act, 1907, had not been adopted in this district previous to 1915, but by the passing of the 1915 Act, the original Act of 1907 became compulsory in all districts where it was not already in force, and it is now necessary for medical practitioners and midwives to notify to the Medical Officer of Health all births they attend and for the Medical Officer of Health to forward to the County Medical Officer of Health a duplicate of each notification he receives. The two Acts confer on Local Authorities considerable powers for the promotion of schemes for the care of mothers and young children, and it is the intention of the Local Government Board that at a later date complete schemes which have been very comprehensively outlined in a memorandum on the subject by the Medical Officer to the Board, are to be available in every district. For the present, however, they more immediately urge the employment of Health Visitors, whose duty it will be to keep in touch with the home conditions of the infants who are notified, and where Sanitary Authorities fail to make such arrangements either independently or jointly with adjacent areas, the districts are to included in a county scheme.

The following table give a comparison between the rates for this District, and those for England and Wales:—

	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Infant Mortality
England & Wales	21'8	15'1	110
96 Great Towns (including London)	22'8	15'6	117
148 Smaller Towns	21'6	14'0	114
England & Wales	20'7	14'8	98
Less the 244 Towns Bromley Rural	18'5	12'5	88

Inquests.—Of the 29 inquests held during the year 11 referred to non-residents of the district. The deaths were certified to be due to the following causes:—16 to natural causes.

- 1 „ overlaying (infant aged 2 months).
- 1 „ want of attention at birth.
- 2 „ accidental escape of gas.
- 1 „ accidental scalds (child 2 years).
- 2 „ motor and cycle accidents.
- 5 „ suicide (four did not belong to this district).

A.—NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, or by Orders or Regulations under the Public Health Act, 1875, the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in the district, viz:—Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlet Fever or Scarlatina, and the Fevers known by any of the following names:—Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued and Puerperal, also Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Acute Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum Measles and German Measles.

As required by the Measles Order, 1915, notification forms were supplied to all Medical Practitioners in the district, and notices drawing the attention of parents and guardians to their duties under this Act were posted in public places, and also distributed in various suitable ways.

There has been a slight decrease in the total amount of infectious disease notified to me during 1915, scarlet fever and diphtheria having been slightly less prevalent during 1915, with fewer deaths from diphtheria and no deaths from scarlet fever. There has been a substantial increase in erysipelas, 17 cases having been notified compared with six in 1914, and a decrease in tuberculosis with 24 cases from all forms of the disease compared with 40 in 1914. There were two cases of cerebro-spinal fever and one suspected case, and one of typhoid fever.

Scarlet Fever.—Of the 28 cases notified, six occurred in January and seven in May. The January cases were children attending North Cray School, and one of them was the son of the School Mistress, and was supposed to be suffering from influenza, until almost a fortnight later he was found to be peeling, and was removed to the Isolation Hospital. Two of the May cases were notified from the Workhouse, Farnborough, and the remainder were from two families, one at St. Paul's Cray and the other at St. Mary Cray, all the children from both families having attended the St. Mary Cray Schools. Two October and two November cases were also from one family at Chelsfield.

The age-periods of the cases were as follows:—

1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—45 years	45—65 years	
4	19	2	3	0	28 cases

Diphtheria.—Of the 67 cases notified the majority occurred in March, April and November, and, as in 1914, the village of Farnborough and the Workhouse, Farnborough, seemed to be the chief centres of infection, though apparently in the first instance the disease was spread through contact at school.

One of the first of the April cases from the Workhouse was a ward-maid, aged 19, who was removed to Hospital on being notified, and was still there at the end of 1915, repeated swabs giving positive results. A second case in April was a boy, aged four years, who had not been in

contact with any of the infected children, but had been visited by relatives from Orpington a few days previous to notification. He was removed to the Bromley and Beckenham Isolation Hospital, and remained there until May 19th, when, after two negative swabs had been taken, he returned to the Workhouse, where he was isolated, and another swab was taken which gave a positive result. He was admitted to the Isolation Hospital a second time, and remained there until December 3rd. On his return to the Workhouse he was again isolated, and two swabs were taken and sent to different laboratories for bacteriological examination, the result of one being positive and the other negative. The boy was again admitted to the Isolation Hospital on December 6th, and was still there at the end of the year.

In June the Council decided to send out circulars, reminding Medical Practitioners in the district of the facilities afforded by the Council for the supply of anti-toxin in suitable cases, and asking doctors not to wait for the result of a bacteriological examination of a swab before injecting, in cases having clinical signs of the disease.

The following shows the age periods at which the cases and deaths occurred :—

under 1 year	1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—45 years	45—65 years	65 upwards
1	18	40	6	1	0	1 — 67

There were three deaths ; one occurred at St. Mary Cray in May, one at Farnborough in October, and one in November at Cudham.

Enteric Fever.—The only case notified was a young woman, who had been admitted to the Union Infirmary from the Borough of Bromley already ill and in a very neglected condition. The Health Authorities at Bromley were communicated with, and they reported that the house from which the woman had been removed was in a very dirty condition.

Erysipelas.—Of the 17 cases of erysipelas, 11 were notified from the Workhouse Infirmary, and two were severe cases, but recovered ; one was a woman just confined whose child was still-born.

Puerperal Fever.—One case was notified, a woman, aged 31, who was notified from the Workhouse Infirmary, Farnborough ; her condition was stated to be critical, but she recovered.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—Two cases were notified. A doubtful case of meningitis also occurred and terminated fatally, but no bacteriological examination of the fluid was obtainable.

The first case occurred at Orpington, the patient being a young married woman, and the onset was severe and sudden. It was presumed that she had contracted the disease by contact with her child, aged 8 months, who died suddenly on January 3rd, and was the subject of an inquest, the cause of death being attributed to "some unknown

The second case (also bacteriologically positive), but not severe, was notified in May. The patient was treated at home and was never very ill.

It could only be presumed that the disease was transmitted from the child to the mother.

Smallpox.—It is satisfactory to record that no cases of this disease have occurred since April, 1908.

Tuberculosis.—There were 21 deaths from all forms of the disease compared with 26 in 1914, and 15 were due to phthisis. Four of the deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis were notified as cases in 1915, two in 1914, one in 1913, and seven had not, apparently, been notified in this district.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
TUBERCULOSIS (all forms) :									
England and Wales	... 1'61	1'58	1'54	1'43	1'46	1'53	...	...	...
Death Rate, Bromley	... 1'14	0'88	1'01	1'10	1'36	1'56	1'40	1'12	0'91
No. of Deaths	... 33	18	21	23	30	35	32	26	21
PHTHISIS :									
England and Wales	... 1'14	1'12	1'09	1'02	1'06	1'39	...	...	...
Death Rate, Bromley	... ..	...	...	...	...	1'38	0'92	0'95	0'65
No. of Deaths	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	21	22	15

Phthisis.—There were 19 new cases notified compared with 36 in 1914. The homes were visited and disinfection carried out where desired, and disinfectants were left and sputum flasks supplied where required.

The following table gives the distribution of the new cases notified and the deaths during 1915.

DISTRIBUTION OF CASES AND DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1915.

				DEATHS DURING 1915		
				Notified previous to 1915	Notified during 1915	Not Notified
Farnborough	...	...	1	—	2	—
Farnborough Workhouse			1	—	—	—
Orpington	...	...	5	—	1	3
St. Mary Cray	...	...	2	—	1	—
Cudham	...	...	2	—	—	1
Mottingham	...	...	2	3	—	—
St. Paul's Cray	...	...	1	—	—	1
West Wickham	...	...	2	—	—	1
Other parts	...	...	3	—	—	2
19				3	4	8

There were the same number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified as in 1914.

The following table gives the age groups of the new cases for all forms of tuberculosis notified during 1915.

NEW CASES OF ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING 1915

	No. of Cases.		Sex.	18	under 5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	10	M						1		2			2	2	1			2	
	9	F						1	1	2	1	1	1			2			
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	4	M				3				1									
	1	F	1																
	24			1	3	2	1	5	1	1	3	2	1	2				2	

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.—There were no deaths from measles during 1915 in this district.

Whooping Cough.—There were four deaths occurring in January, June and September. The January and June deaths belonged to St. Mary Cray, and were children aged four months and fourteen months. The September deaths were both children, aged 22 months, and occurred at Cudham.

Influenza.—There were six deaths—all persons over 45. One occurred at the end of 1914, three were in February, 1915, one in April and one in October.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under two years).—There were no deaths during 1915. In 1913 and 1914 there were seven deaths registered each year.

C.—OTHER DISEASES.

Cancer.—There were 27 deaths during 1915, and they related to 19 females and nine males. Fourteen of the deaths were of persons over 65 years of age. Where householders desire it, the Sanitary Inspector arranges for the disinfection of bedding, premises, etc., after a death from cancer.

The following table shows the number of deaths and death-rates for this district for the years 1907—1914, with the comparative corrected rates for England and Wales up to 1912, beyond which year the latter are not at present available.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
England & Wales	0·91	0·92	0·96	0·97	0·99	0·99			
Bromley Rural—									
Death-rate	0·54	1·76	0·92	0·96	0·91	1·25	1·45	1·34	1·17
No. of deaths	11	36	19	20	20	28	33	31	27

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

At the request of Dr. Fuller, on behalf of the Local Government Board, I made a joint inspection of the Workhouse with Dr. Price, the medical officer, with the object of ascertaining the best means available for providing isolation accommodation for the treatment of those infectious diseases which are admitted to the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital. As no provision had, apparently, been made on the new plans for isolation accommodation, I advised the conversion of the Labour Yard Shed into a temporary Isolation Hospital, and suggested the provision of revolving shelters for phthisical cases,

Eighty-three cases of infectious disease were treated in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Isolation Hospital, and were admitted as follows :—

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Poliomyelitis.	Total.
January	6	2	—	—	8
February	—	3	—	—	3
March	—	13	—	—	13
April	—	9	—	—	9
May	7	4	—	—	11
June	2	3	—	—	5
July	—	3	—	—	3
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	1	2	—	—	3
October	2	8	—	—	10
November	4	8	—	—	12
December	3	3	—	—	6
Totals...	25	58	0	0	83

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL AIDS TO DIAGNOSIS.

Specimens examined	Results.		Totals.
	Positive.	Negative.	
Diphtheria	39	233	272
Typhoid Fever...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	2	2
Cerebro sp. Fever	2	2	4
Totals	41	237	278

Adoptive Acts.—The following portions of the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907, are in force in the whole of the Rural District :—

Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Sections 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 31, 32 and 33.

Part 3 (Sanitary Provisions). Sections 36, 37, 38, 43, 44 and 45, 49 and 51.

Part 4 (Infectious Disease). Sections 52 to 68 (both inclusive).

and Part 2 (Streets and Buildings). Sections 15, 16, 17, 18 and 27, in the contributory places of New Chelsfield Special Drainage District, Downe, Farnborough, Keston, Knockholt, Mottingham, Orpington, St. Mary Cray, and West Wickham,

Inspection of District.—The district, which includes 13 parishes, is divided into two parts for the purpose of inspection, viz. :—

No. 1 District (Mr. Nightingale) includes the parishes of :—

Population at Census of 1914					
Mottingham	...	...	...	...	1534
North Cray	...	...	...	...	655
Orpington	...	...	...	...	5036
St. Mary Cray	...	...	...	...	1857
St. Paul's Cray	...	...	...	...	1467
					<hr/> 10,549

No. 2 District (Mr. Dunlop) includes the parishes of :—

Chelsfield	...	...	...	...	1790
Cudham	...	...	...	...	1604
Downe	...	...	...	...	649
Farnborough	...	...	...	...	2141
Hayes	...	...	...	...	925
Keston	...	...	...	...	986
Knockholt	...	...	...	...	943
West Wickham	...	...	...	...	1302
Union Workhouse, Farnborough	...	...	...	...	654
St. Joseph's Home, Farnborough	...	...	...	...	415
					<hr/> 11,409

21,958

The particulars as to the inspections made and work done by the Sanitary Inspectors as required by the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Order, 1910, are appended in Mr. Nightingale's and Mr. Dunlop's reports.

Water.—Most of the houses are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board. Four houses were found to have no available supply of water, and were connected to the public mains. Nineteen certificates were granted in regard to new houses.

Drainage.—I made several inspections with regard to private works at West Wickham, Keston, St. Mary Cray and Chelsfield, where either improvements were being effected to existing drainage or new systems were being carried out.

Refuse.—There has been some slight irregularity in carrying out the weekly collections in some of the parishes included in this district on account of the difficulty of obtaining the requisite labour. During 1915 moveable dust bins have been supplied to 202 houses.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—The premises have been subjected to the usual supervision, and were cleansed and lime-washed twice during the year.

In consequence of so many cases of diphtheria being notified from the Workhouse, I decided to inspect the farms from which the milk supply was received. Both farms are in the West Kent combined Sanitary District, and in both instances they appeared to be in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

Elementary Schools.—The following is a list of schools closed, with periods of closure during 1915, on account of the prevalence of infectious disease :—

School.	Disease.	From	To
Hayes	Whooping Cough	June 12	July 3
North Cray Infants ...	Measles	June 1	June 19
North Cray C. of E. School.	Scarlet Fever	Jan. 25	Feb. 12

Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.—The number of houses inspected under this Act since it came into force is as follows :—

1911	...	...	...	...	...	208
1912	...	...	...	...	...	301
1913	...	...	...	...	...	282
1914	...	...	...	...	...	194
1915	...	...	...	...	...	—
						<hr/> 985 <hr/>

Owing to the difficulty of getting repairs carried out, and the futility of making inspections unless defects could be remedied, it was decided not to proceed with inspections under this Act for the time being. The new houses erected by the Council, and almost completed at the end of 1914, were all occupied at the end of 1915.

There has been difficulty in getting the occupants out of the houses known as Chapel Row, Knockholt, for which Closing Orders had been made, and at the end of 1915 two of the houses were still occupied.

Slaughter-houses.—I inspected some premises at Farnborough, which it was proposed to use for slaughtering pigs and sheep, but I considered the premises were too near dwelling houses and negated the proposal.

There are 18 slaughter-houses in the district, and they have been frequently inspected and any defects have been dealt with.

Hop-picking.—The fruit and hop-pickers' shelters have been frequently inspected, and minor defects have been dealt with.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.—The usual inspections have been carried out and defects have been remedied on request.

The reports of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, the statistical tables required by the Local Government Board, and the Table provided by the Secretary of State for recording action taken under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, are appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor- rected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents 8 registered in the District.	Of Residents 9 not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	20'858	...	508	24'3	322	15'4	96	6	51	100	232	11'1
1911	21'958	469	450	20'4	322	14'6	102	28	55	122	248	11'2
1912	22'387	461	444	19'8	307	13'7	91	27	25	56	243	10'9
1913	22'736	491	482	21'2	350	15'4	94	25	38	79	281	12'4
1914	23'095	468	462	20'0	347	10'7	124	31	25	54	254	11'0
1915	23'058	434	428	18'5	375	16'2	113	26	38	88	288	12'5

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 28,839.

At Census of 1911 :—Total population at all ages, 21,958; total families or separate occupiers, 4,777; average number of persons per house, 4'6.

Table 2.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality. (Parish or Ward) of the District.										Total Cases removed to Hospital			
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						Farnborough	Orpington	St. Mary Cray	Workhouse Farnborough	Mottingham	St. Paul's Cray	North Cray	Keston	Chelsfield	Knockholt		Cudham	Other parishes	
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65														65 and upwards
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera and Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Memb. croup) ...	67	1	18	40	6	1	...	1	...	8	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	17	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	28	...	4	19	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever and Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	19	...	...	2	5	7	5	1	5	2	1	2	...	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	1	3	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Totals	141	5	25	61	15	22	9	4	16	15	34	5	5	9	4	10	12	5	5	...	91

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c.—Bromley and Beckenham Joint.

Table 3. Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1915.

Causes of Death.	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
ALL CAUSES—										
Certified	286	37	10	7	9	6	24	65	128	...
Uncertified	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteric Fever... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	3	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	15	...	1	...	1	1	7	4	1	11
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	1	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	3
Cancer, malignant disease	27	...	...	...	...	...	4	9	14	12
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Meningitis	4	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	45	...	...	...	...	...	3	12	30	42
Bronchitis	36	5	1	...	1	1	...	2	26	24
Pneumonia (all forms)	24	5	...	4	1	3	2	5	4	9
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs... ..	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	1	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	8	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	5	9
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	8	2	...	1	...	...	1	2	2	5
Suicide... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	72	5	2	...	1	...	4	21	39	34
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
	288	38	10	7	9	6	24	65	129	165

Table 4.—BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY. 1915. Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-9 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Cases { Certified. { Uncertified. 		13 0	1			14	8	6 1	4	5	37 1
{ Small-pox Chicken-pox Measles Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Diphtheria and Croup Erysipelas Tuberculous Meningitis Abdominal Tuberculosis Other Tuberculous Diseases Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) Convulsions Laryngitis Bronchitis Pneumonia (all forms) Diarrhoea Enteritis Gastritis Syphilis Rickets Suffocation, overlying Injury at Birth... Atelectasis Congenital Malformations Premature Birth Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Totals		13	1	...	...	14	8	7	4	5	38

Net Births in the year—Legitimate 413; Illegitimate 15. Net Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants 35; Illegitimate 3.

*FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.***FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.****1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	27	0	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	212	38	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	3	0	0
Total ...	242	38	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Nuisances under the Public Health
Acts :—*

Particulars.	No. found.	No. Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prosecu- tions.
Want of cleanliness ...	28	28	0	0
Want of ventilation ...	2	2	0	0
Other nuisances ...	6	6	0	0
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	0	0
Total ...	36	36	0	0

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nil.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

Workshop Bakehouses ...	27
Other Workshops ...	95
Workplaces ...	3
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	125

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901):

Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

J. S. TEW, Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1916.

The War.—There has been a substantial increase in the sanitary work of this district in consequence of the war. Several camps and billeting quarters (of a more or less permanent character) have been formed, and have necessitated numerous inspections by myself, and frequent supervision by your Sanitary Inspectors, to ensure a satisfactory water supply, and that the sanitary arrangements and conditions conformed with necessary requirements, and this has been especially desirable in consideration of the geological formation of some parts of this district.

The following is a list of the cases of infectious disease notified to me, and they occurred chiefly in the Parish of Mottingham which adjoins the Lewisham Borough, where a camp has been formed which extends for a short distance into the Bromley Rural District. Special arrangements were made, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, and the cases of cerebro-spinal fever were removed to the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, for treatment, and the cases of scarlet fever and two of the diphtheria cases to the Brooke Hospital, one of the Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, which has been turned into an Isolation Hospital for military cases of infectious disease. Two of the diphtheria cases and the erysipelas case were notified from V.A.D. Hospitals in this district, but all the other cases were from the Grove Park Camp.

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

No. 1 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
"AINTREE," ORPINGTON,

January, 1916.

**To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my thirteenth Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1915.

Infectious Disease.—During the year 50 cases of infectious disease were notified, namely:—Diphtheria, 21; Scarlet Fever, 20; Erysipelas, 2; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 7.

The cases occurred in the various Parishes as follows:—Orpington, 16; St. Mary Cray, 8; St. Paul's Cray, 4; North Cray, 8; Mottingham, 14. Of the 14 notifications received from Mottingham, 11 were men of the Army Service Corps at Pennington Camp and Grove Park Depot. Forty-two cases were removed for isolation and Hospital treatment, and disinfection of rooms, clothing, etc., was carried out immediately after being vacated by the patients.

Tuberculosis.—Eight fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one other were notified during the year. Visits were made in connection with the cases, and sputum bottles, disinfectants and leaflets giving advice were left with the patients.

Epidemic Diarrhœa.—Special visits were made in the working-class district during the hot weather, and attention was given to the weekly clearance of house refuse. Cards giving advice to mothers on the care and feeding of infants were distributed. "Kill that Fly" leaflets were also distributed.

Bacteriological Specimens.—During the year 62 specimens were sent for examination with results as follows:—Diphtheria, 48 negative, 8 positive (56); Tuberculosis, 2 negative; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 3 negative, 1 positive.

Complaints.—Seventy-nine complaints were received and investigated; 2,300 inspections were made, and 447 nuisances dealt with.

Drainage.—The drains in connection with 30 houses were examined and tested with the smoke test. At eight houses new drains were constructed, at 14 houses the drains were repaired, and at the remaining eight the necessary repairs are in hand.

Insufficient Water Closets and Ashpits.—Repairs or renewals to flushing cisterns and soilpans have been carried out to the w.c.'s. at 62 houses, and 136 houses have been supplied with moveable dustbins.

Overcrowding.—One case only of overcrowding has come to my notice, and this was abated upon verbal request.

Although there are very few vacant houses, there does not appear to be any shortage, and, upon a general inspection of the working-class parts of the district, I did not find many houses occupied by two families.

Water Supply.—There are very few houses in this part of the district which are supplied other than by the Metropolitan Water Board's main, and no suspicion is attached to the few private wells from which drinking water is derived.

Visits have been made to the newly-erected houses, and certificates issued under Section 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—These premises have been frequently inspected during the year, and generally found to comply with your Council's regulations.

Slaughter-houses and Cattle Market.—There are 10 slaughter-houses in the district, and to these and the weekly Cattle Market I made 253 visits.

Many visits were made during the process of slaughtering, in order to detect disease, and contraventions of the Maintenance of Live Stock Order of 1915.

Food Inspection.—The butchers' shops, fish shops, hawkers' carts, etc., were frequently inspected during the year. A trunk of wet fish was surrendered to me and destroyed, being found unfit for food upon arrival from London.

Complaint was made that meat of a doubtful character was being sold from a certain shop in the district, also that the doubtful meat was being concealed in a cupboard. I investigated and paid a surprise visit, armed with the necessary search warrant, but found no evidence of concealment, the meat in the shop being chiefly home-killed of the best quality.

Bakehouses.—There are 11 registered bakehouses in the district, and these were periodically cleansed and limewashed as required by the Factory and Workshops Act.

Fruit Pickers' Huts.—The huts, tents, vans, etc., occupied by persons engaged in fruit and vegetable picking were frequently visited at night or such hours when people were in the huts. One or two cases

of overcrowding were found to exist just on arrival of pickers, but at every camp there were vacant huts, and overcrowding was soon abated. The season was short, and many of the pickers left the district in July.

No case of infectious disease was notified or discovered among the pickers.

Common Lodging House.—The common Lodging House at Fordcroft, Orpington, was frequently visited, and no breach of the Byelaws was discovered. Complaints were made alleging that persons were removed from this Lodging House to other institutions in a verminous condition, but, upon investigation, I was satisfied that the vermin did not originate from the Lodging House.

Removal of House Refuse.—The weekly collection of house refuse has not been carried out as well as might be desired in some of the Parishes, but the contractors have had difficulty in getting labour for this class of work. Several complaints of non-removal were found to be unjustified; the bins contained gravel, earth and other garden refuse, which the dustmen rightly refused to take away. Leaflets, warning persons not to put garden refuse in the bins, have been distributed, and it is hoped will have a good effect.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—The Register required to be kept under this Act contains entries of 11 workshop-bakehouses, 51 workshops various and three workplaces, and these were inspected periodically during the year.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.—Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.—No inspections were made under this Act during the year. Owing to shortage of labour and increased price of building materials, it would be difficult to get all requirements of notices complied with.

The matter was brought up at a Council Meeting, and although no definite instructions were given, Mr. Dunlop and I understood that it was the wish of the Council not to serve notices. It was therefore almost useless to make any records, and my inspections have been made solely under the nuisance clauses of the Public Health Act, 1875.

Defective and Dirty Houses.—Fifty-nine houses or parts of houses have been repaired, cleansed and whitewashed.

River Cray.—During the year the springs at Orpington have been very active, and the river has had a good flow of water. Unfortunately, mischievous boys and other thoughtless persons will throw old tins and other rubbish into the river, which interfere with the free flow of stream and cause flooding at various points, about which complaints have been received.

A prosecution under the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, would have a beneficial effect in this direction.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	79
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	2362
Number of nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	447
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	104
Number of preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	229
Houses at which drains were examined	...	...	...	...	30
Houses generally repaired and cleansed...	...	...	...	...	59
Flushing cisterns and soilpans provided...	...	...	...	...	62
New dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	136
Back yards paved	...	...	...	...	7
New w.c's. built	...	...	...	...	3
Overcrowding cases abated	...	...	...	...	1
Inspections to workshops	...	...	...	...	107
Inspections to slaughter-houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	253
Number of letters, reports, etc., written	...	...	...	...	1392

I have the honour to be, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY NIGHTINGALE, M.S.I.A.

(Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute),

Sanitary Inspector.

BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

No. 2 District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

FARNBOROUGH,

February 22nd, 1916.

**To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
BROMLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1915.

The number of visits made in the several Parishes is as follows :—
Chelsfield, 80 ; Cudham, 46 ; Downe, 32 ; Farnborough, 90 ; Hayes, 36 ;
Keston, 70 ; Knockholt, 36 ; West Wickham, 42.

Complaints.—Ninety-eight complaints were received and investigated. Of these, 28 related to drainage, 20 to cesspools, 14 to damp houses, 12 to accumulations of house refuse, 10 to closets, 10 to animals kept in a filthy condition, and 4 to overcrowding.

Infectious Disease.—During the year 78 cases of infectious disease were notified, and included 47 cases of Diphtheria, 16 of Erysipelas, 11 of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1 of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, 1 of Enteric Fever, and 1 of Puerperal Fever.

Fifty-three cases were treated at the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.—During the year 32 notifications of Phthisis were received under the different forms as follows, viz. :—

Form A	...	...	...	...	18
„ C	...	...	...	...	7
„ D	...	...	...	...	7
Total					32

Disinfection and the cleaning of rooms was carried out at various premises where fatal cases occurred.

Epidemic Diarrhœa.—A weekly list of births having been received from the Registrars, 196 cards were issued giving advice to mothers on the feeding and care of infants.

Water Supply.—Four houses were found to be without an available supply of wholesome water, and these are now connected with the Metropolitan Water Board's main.

Nineteen certificates were granted in respect of the erection of new houses.

Nuisances Discovered.—The number of nuisances discovered was 172, made up as follows :—66 related to offensive accumulators, 30 to cesspools, 26 to drains, 22 to closets, 12 to dirty and insanitary dwellings, 12 to urinals, and 4 to overcrowding.

Drainage.—The drainage of 26 premises was found defective, and the same has been rectified. New systems have been carried out at Keston Rectory, and at "Beechwood," Farnborough.

Insanitary Dwellings.—Thirty-four insanitary dwellings were discovered, and the work of general repairs and cleansing was carried out on service of preliminary notices.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., 1909.—Eight new cottages have been built at Knockholt, all of which are now occupied.

In further reference to Nos. 1—11, Chapel Row, in connection with which a closing order was issued, considerable difficulty has been experienced in getting the tenants out, and two of the cottages are still occupied.

Food Inspection.—During the year, 62 inspections were made of the meat in butcher's shops, etc., and the cleansing and limewashing of all slaughter-houses was carried out in accordance with the Byelaws.

Hawkers' carts were also frequently inspected, and several pounds of unsound fruit (strawberries) was surrendered on Keston Common during the holiday season.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—There are 28 persons on the Register, classed as follows :—

Cowkeepers only	...	...	...	...	18
Cowkeepers, dairymen and purveyors of milk	...				8
Purveyors of milk only	...	...	...	...	2

Total	...	...	...	...	28
					—

All cowsheds and dairies were cleansed and limewashed; one during the month of May, and one during the month of October, in accordance with the Regulations.

The number of milch cows is 500.

Slaughter-houses.—There are eight slaughter-houses, and all licences have been renewed for a period of one year.

Bakehouses.—There are 16 bakehouses, and these were regularly cleansed and limewashed, as required by Section 99 of the Factory and Workshops Act of 1901.

No complaint was received from the Home Office.

Fruit Pickers' Shelters.—There are 220 of these, and frequent inspections were made during the fruit picking season.

The Byelaws were generally complied with.

Insufficient Ashpits.—Sixty-six houses have been supplied with moveable receptacles.

Overcrowding.—Eight cases of overcrowding were discovered and abated upon notice.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—The Register contains the entry of six factories and 60 workshops, including workshop bakehouses.

One hundred and twenty inspections were made; 30 nuisances found and abated upon notice.

Bacteriological Laboratory Reports.—The number of swab specimens submitted to and examined by the County Laboratory Authorities was 162; 134 of these proved negative, and 28 positive.

The number submitted to and examined by the Chemical Research Association was 54; 51 proving negative, and 3 positive.

Thirty-one cases of diphtheria were notified by Medical Practitioners after receiving positive result of swab specimen.

Soldiers' Billets, etc.—In accordance with the directions contained in a circular letter issued by the Local Government Board, on the 21st of October, 1914, I have paid regular visits to various premises in the different Parishes where soldiers have been billeted, with a view to securing the best sanitary arrangements in connection therewith.

I have also conferred with the military Medical Officer at the Barracks, Green-Street-Green, concerning the disposal of refuse, information as regards drainage, and the control of infectious disease.

V.A.D. Hospitals.—Frequent inspections have been made in connection with the sanitary arrangements at the V.A.D. Hospitals in the Parishes of Farnborough and Hayes, and assistance has also been rendered in the disinfection of soldiers' clothing, etc.

Belgian Refugees.—The various premises occupied by these people have been regularly inspected, especially in the Parishes of Cudham and Knockholt.

Summary of Work Done.

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	1420
Number of re-inspections made	...	...	...	...	416
Number of nuisances discovered and abated	...	...	...	...	172
Number of houses at which general repairs and cleansing were carried out	...	...	...	...	32
Number of houses (parts of) disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	34
Number of houses redrained	...	...	...	...	26
Number of new sanitary dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	66
Number of urinals cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	28
Number of houses supplied with water for dietetic purposes	...	...	...	...	23
Overcrowding—number of cases abated	...	...	...	...	8
Number of letters, reports and notices written	...	...	...	...	864
Number of preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	94
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	24

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ANDREW DUNLOP, M.S.I.A.

(Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute).

Sanitary Inspector.